



**Nia Long**

Nia, a stand out High school student at the Metropolitan Learning Center, is everything that exemplifies your out-of-the-box thinker. She is a young lady that seeks to get an understanding of the faith she upholds, because she realizes being successful is not the only factor to thriving in life- But ultimately the grace of God.

These last four years have been nothing short of an amazing journey. A true demonstration of strong will and determination. Maintaining a 4.3 grade point average, Nia leads at the top of her class receiving Honors with Distinction. She's participated in a plethora of enrichment programs throughout Connecticut including Yale University, Alpha Kappa Alpha incorporated, Our piece of the pie, and United Healthcare.

In her free time, Nia enjoys listening to music, dancing and writing poetry. In fact, Poetry has always been one of her favorite reads. In 2019, Nia published her very first book, ***'Finding Sunshine'*** - A collection of poems that illustrates how she endured insecurities and emotional challenges. It is her personal revelation and testimony of how she's grown into the graceful and resilient young lady she is today!

In the fall, Nia plans to join the ranks of the illustrious ladies of Spelman College. Where she will study medicine to become a pediatrician. Her mission is to help shift the ongoing racial disparities and healthcare crisis in the Black community.

"Progression not Perfection", are the words Nia stands on. In the midst of a global pandemic, she has certainly proven that progression is always possible, if you believe!